

SACRIFICE

107

Enter GOVINDA, *the King*;
JAISING,
the servant of temple;
and ApAKNA,
the beggar girl.

Jaising

What is your wish, Sire ?

Govinda

Is it true that this poor
girl's pet
goat has been brought by
force to
the temple to be killed ? Will
Mother
accept such a gift with
grace ?

Jaising

King, how are we to know
from
whence the servants collect
our daily
offerings of worship ? But, my
child,
why is this weeping ? Is it
worthy of
you to shed tears for that
which
Mother herself has taken ?

Aparna

Mother! I am his mother.
If I
return late to my hut. he
refuses his